

LADY'S INTERCHANGEABLE OUTER CARRYING BAG

Background of the Invention

This invention relates to a lady's carrying bag. More specifically, it refers to a lady's carrying bag having an inner and outer bag, the inner bag containing desired personal items and the outer bag being interchangeable so that various unique styles and colors can be employed to match a lady's outfit.

Covers for a lady's carrying bag are well known going back to at least 1934. See U.S. Patent 1,960,396. Since that time, many different designs for a lady's carrying bag have been developed. In U.S. Patent 2,437,382, a zipper encloses an inner bag and a row of snap fasteners connect the inner bag to an outer bag. In U.S. Patent 2,653,640, the outer bag has a rigid frame with a pair of arms at each end. There are gussets inside the arms. An inner bag is placed inside the outer bag with pockets slipped over cross members of the inner bag. In U.S. Patent 3,234,985, an outer bag frame has a pair of U-shaped frame channels with hinge elements pivotally securing the channels to one another. Clamps along the channels secure an inner liner. In U.S. Patent 5,207,254, an inner bag is secured to the outer bag by strips of hook and loop fastening material. In U.S. Patent 5,894,975, the inner and outer bag

are attached by zippers. In U.S. Patent 6,179,025, an inner bag has a magnetic snap fastener engaging a magnetic snap fastener on the outer bag to hold the inner and outer bag together. Although these described designs all function to hold inner and outer bags together, the mechanism is cumbersome in some instances and in others add substantially to the cost of the handbag. A mechanism for easily and inexpensively connecting the inner bag and outer replaceable bag is needed.

Summary of The Invention

This invention provides a simple mechanism for joining an inner bag and outer decorative handbag together. Outer bags can be exchanged in seconds so that the bearer can match her handbag to her outfit. The handbag combination of this invention has an inner bag with longitudinally extending front and back walls, a base portion and trapezoidal shaped right and left end walls. A top portion has a centered zipper to seal the top portion together. A top end of each trapezoidal end wall has a tab with an inner channel for enclosing a base of a D-ring, the D-ring engageable with clips on a shoulder strap. The outer bag has longitudinally extending front and back walls connected to a base and trapezoidal end walls, all being slightly larger than corresponding dimensions on the inner bag. An inside wall of a top portion of each end wall has a cloth strip sewn in place to form a slot for receiving the D-ring of

the inner bag. A top edge of the back wall has a foldable cover attached so that the cover encloses the top of the outer bag and covers the inner bag located within the outer bag.

Brief Description of The Drawings

5 The invention can be best understood by those having ordinary skill in the art by reference to the following detailed description when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

10 FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the separated inner and outer bag and carrying strap.

 FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the inner bag positioned within the outer bag.

 FIG. 3 is an expanded view of the connection between the inner and outer bag.

15 FIG. 4 is a cut-away view of a pocket within the inner bag.

 FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the inner bag positioned within an outer bag having an alternate exterior design.

20 FIG. 6 is a perspective view of an inner bag positioned within an outer bag having a square geometric form at the end panels.

 FIG. 7 is a perspective view of an inner bag positioned within an outer bag having a rectangular geometric form at the end panels.

Detailed Description

Throughout the following detailed description, the same reference numbers refer to the same elements in all figures.

Referring to FIGS. 1-3, the combined handbag 10 has an inner bag 12 and an outer bag 14. The inner bag 12 has oppositely positioned end panels 16 in the shape of a trapezoid. The end panels 16 are joined together by stitching to the end panels 16, an elongated front panel 18, back panel 20 and base panel 22. An elongated closure strap 24 is stitched to a top edge of panel 18. Likewise, an elongated closure strip 26 is stitched to a top edge of panel 20. Closure strips 24 and 26 are joined together with zipper 28 to close a top of inner bag 12. A hollow tab 30 is stitched to a top edge of panel 16. Likewise, a hollow tab 32 is stitched to a top edge of opposite end panel 16. A base portion of D-rings 34 and 36 is enclosed by tabs 30 and 32, respectively. A clip 38 attaches to ring 34 and clip 40 attaches to ring 36 to join strap 42 to the inner bag 12.

Outer bag 14 has oppositely positioned end panels 44, preferably with a trapezoidal shape. Elongated front panel 46, back panel 48 and base panel 50 join the end panels 44 together with stitching along edges 52, 54, 56 and 58. Each of the panels 44, 46, 48 and 50 are slightly larger than the corresponding panels in the inner bag 12. A top flap 60 is

stitched to a top edge 62 of back panel 48. Top flap 60 folds on edge 62 to close opening 64 in the outer bag 14. A cloth or leather belt 66 is stitched to an inner wall at a top portion of panel 44 to form a slot 68 for receipt of D-ring 34 attached to inner bag 12. Likewise, belt 70 is stitched to an inner wall 72 at a top portion of oppositely positioned panel 44 to form a slot 74 for receipt of D-ring 36 attached to inner bag 12.

The outer bag 14 can be made of different materials such as leather, cloth, vinyl, or other plastic material. The outer bag 14 can have different exterior designs on panels 44, 46, 48 and 60, including different colors to match the shoes or outfit worn by the bearer. Personal items, money and credit cards are retained in inner bag 12. Inner bag 12 can be easily removed from outer decorative bag 14 by slipping the D-rings 34 and 36 out of slots 68 and 74 and replacing them in a substitute decorative outer bag.

Optionally, the inner bag 12 can be made out of a less expensive cloth or plastic material and can have one or more interior pockets 76 with end gussets 78.

Alternatively, the outer and inner bag can have different geometric shaped side panels such as square 80 or rectangular 82 as seen in FIG. 6 and 7.

Other equivalent elements can be substituted for the

elements disclosed herein to produce the same results in the same way.